

# THE ESTANCIA NEWS.

VOLUME V.

ESTANCIA, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, FRIDAY, JUNE 25 1909

NUMBER 36.

## HAS ROCK ISLAND CONTROL OF N. M. CENTRAL?

Col. Hopewell does not Deny that Negotiations are under Way

The sale of the Santa Fe Central railroad, now the New Mexico Central, and all its allied properties, has been reported so often; the building of the Albuquerque Eastern into Albuquerque has been predicted for the immediate future so many times that the Morning Journal has for the past year consistently passed by practically all rumors connected with the affairs of the railroad and its Albuquerque connection.

There is now, however, ample reason for giving full credit to a rumor which has been current among well informed business men here for several days that the Rock Island railroad system is not only negotiating for the purchase of the New Mexico Central and its allied properties, the Albuquerque Eastern and the Hagan coal fields, but that the negotiations are very near to a satisfactory conclusion; if, indeed the transaction has not already been closed.

Colonel W. S. Hopewell, vice-president of the New Mexico Central, who has had active charge of all of the more recent negotiations in connection with the properties, declined last night to discuss the rumored sale to the Rock Island system, in any way. Colonel Hopewell has maintained a persistent silence concerning all the affairs of the Central for some time past and declined again last night to say anything at all.

It is known, however, that the Rock Island system has made a definite proposal for the purchase of the New Mexico Central and the Hagan coal fields and that the proposal includes the completion of the line to Albuquerque. Whether or not this proposal has been accepted cannot be stated definitely. It has been said within the past day or two by men in a position to know that it has been accepted, and that only the details of the transaction remain to be completed. In any event it is not unlikely that the coming week will bring a definite announcement as to the sale.

In the meantime the matter gains added confirmation through the visit in New Mexico last week of H. U. Mudge, vice-president, and the operating head of the Rock Island system, accompanied by a number of Rock Island officials. The party traveled in Mr. Mudge's private car, covering the entire New Mexico Central line, and including a visit to the coal fields at Hagan with a thorough inspection of the territory along the line.

Although Mr. Mudge's fondness for New Mexico is well known and although, even since he severed his connection with the Santa Fe system his visits have been frequent, it is not to be supposed that he would choose an inspection of the New Mexico Central and its territory as a pleasure trip and the visit is taken as giving final confirmation to the well founded reports that the Rock Island has closed or is near to closing a deal for the New Mexico line.

The statement is made freely by men in a position to know that the sale to the Rock Island

## Boosting the Valley

In a recent letter to the Oklahoma Farm Journal, W. A. Lovelace of Mountainair, gets in several lines of good advertising, boosting the Estancia Valley. From the letter we cull the following:

We came from Oklahoma here, and it is indeed a grand state which bids fair some day in many respects to be the richest state in the Union. But I think none surpasses this locality in some respects, being the geographical center of New Mexico and the great southwest, the rich and beautiful Estancia valley. Just think, only twenty-four months ago, these rich and fertile lands were covered with sheep and ranches. Now you can see wheat, oats, rye, alfalfa, grasses, corn and all kinds of truck and forage crops. You can now see fences, houses, towns, railroads, telephone lines, and various other improvements on the rich prairie and timber lands.

### A. G. Padley Dead.

The announcement of the death last night at St. Joseph's hospital of Alfred C. Padley will bring genuine sorrow to very many people in the city where Mr. Padley had made his home for the past five or six years. The end came at about ten o'clock after an illness which confined Mr. Padley to his bed in the hospital for many weeks. Arrangements for the funeral will be announced tomorrow. The deceased is survived by a mother and other relatives at Rochester, N. Y., his mother having made a brief visit on her son here some time ago.

Mr. Padley after coming to the southwest was employed for a considerable time by the Santa Fe Ry. Co., was a valued member of the clerical staff in the offices of the board of control of the irrigation congress last autumn and for several months held a position in the business offices of the Morning Journal. His cheerful optimism in the face of rapidly declining health and sunny disposition made him hosts of warm friends in Albuquerque and his death will be sincerely felt as a personal loss by all who knew him.—Journal.

### Woodmen Will Put On Play.

The local Modern Woodmen Camp, assisted by the Royal Neighbors is preparing a play "The Modern Woodman Picnic" to be given at the local Camp Hall some date in the late summer or fall. The parts have been assigned and all are busy memorizing the parts and practicing. The play itself is interesting from the first rise of the curtain to the final drop, and will without doubt attract a large crowd.

### Kelly-Pettus.

The News acknowledges receipt of an invitation to the wedding of Miss Anna Kelly and Joseph Walton Pettus on Wednesday afternoon, June the thirtieth, 1909 at Ballinger, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Pettus will be at home after July 3d in Estancia. The News extends congratulations.

will be closed satisfactorily and that Rock Island trains will be running into Albuquerque within a year.—Albuquerque Journal.

## BOOSTING THE VALLEY

Judge Moriarty, who is an extensive land owner and rancher near the little Estancia town which bears his name, drove to Albuquerque yesterday making the 46-mile trip in about six hours. He will remain here for several days attending to personal business.

"The Estancia valley is all right and where crops were planted right and in the right season, they are doing fine. Some of our ranchers who, through inexperience, planted at the wrong time, have not had much success this season, but on the whole, I think we are demonstrating that dry farming is a success. Corn in many spots is from six to eight inches high and other crops look as good. There will be a record breaking crop of both potatoes and beans this year, and where farmers can raise those products, there is little danger of any one starving out. We need rain in the valley and need it badly, but if it comes within a month, we will all have a very good year.

"What is really needed over our way now is a little help from the government, and we have sent a petition to Washington to try and get it. We want the government to experiment in trying to find artesian water and in working pumping stations. Our farmers do not feel that they can afford to make these experiments as they should be made without some assistance, but if it were demagnetized that pumping plants can be operated successfully there, we would all have them in a short time and the Estancia valley would be the garden spot of this section. There has been the usual number of reports of people leaving the Estancia valley. A great many farmers, who have done the required work on their homesteads and who have made all the improvements they can afford, are leaving every now and then to work for a while and secure additional capital to develop their lands. These men are not leaving for good; they are firm in their belief in our future and they are the very best kind of men to develop that country. I have lived for 26 years near Moriarty and 25 years ago, before I went into the stock business, I raised as fine crops on that land by dry farming as I ever saw. I know personally that it can be done and the Estancia valley is no longer in the experimental stage. It only depends on how much we can develop that country and the further we can go, the more money our homesteaders are going to make. Estancia valley has a future as great as any other section of the southwest and I expect to live long enough to see it developed.

"When I first went to the valley I remarked to a well known stock raiser there, 'You might as well prepare to sell out in about 20 years, for this country is meant for farmers,' and they are going to get it in the end."

"I consider it more than an incident, that my prediction has come true. The stockman is out of business and the farmer has the valley. The farmer has come to stay, too, and he will make more money than the stock man ever made in that section."—Citizen.

## CHAUTAUQUA PROGRAM

Monday July 19:  
7.30 P. M. Lecture, by Hon. T. A. McNeal, of Topeka Kas

Tuesday July 20:  
2 P. M. Lecture, by Prof. J. E. Clark, Territorial Supt. of Public Instruction.

7.30 P. M. Program by Torrance County teachers, under charge of County Supt. Charles L. Burt.

Wednesday July 21:

2 P. M. Speech, by Gov. Curry.  
7.30 P. M. Illustrated Lecture by Rev. A. M. Harkness.

Saturday July 24:

2 P. M. Lecture, A. B. Recknagel of the U.S. Forest Service.

7.30 P. M. Lecture, Hon. E. A. Mann, of Alamogordo, N.M.

Sunday July 25

10 A. M. Union Sunday School Service, conducted by Wm M. McCoy.

2 P. M. Sermon Lecture Dr. Blair of Albuquerque, N. M.

7.30 P. M. Sermon Lecture by Dr. John R. Gass of Albuquerque, N.M.

Monday July 26:

2 P. M. Exercises, under charge of Mrs. D. A. Porterfield of Albuquerque, President of Womans Home Missionary Society of N. M.

7.30 P. M. Lecture, by Rev. I. C. Cartwright, Mexico City, Subject, "Mexico Old and New"

Tuesday July 27:  
2 P. M. Lecture, Hon. W. A. Collings, of Indiana.

7.30 P. M. Chalk Talk. Mrs. Maude L. Green of Indiana.

Wednesday July 28

2 P. M. Lecture, Miss Harriet Henderson of Ohio.

7.30 P. M. G. M. Medal Contest, "New Mexico Talent."

Saturday July 31:

2 P. M. Lecture, Prof. H. W. Campbell of Lincoln, Neb.

7.30 P. M. Illustrated Lecture, by Rev. Fletcher Cook of Albuquerque, N. M.

Sunday August 1

10 A. M. Union Sunday School service, conducted by Wm. M. McCoy.

2 P. M. Sermon Lecture, Dr. John C. Rollins, of Albuquerque, N.M.

7.30 P. M. Sermon Lecture, Rev. H. A. Cooper, of Albuquerque, N.M.

July 19, 1909.

To the editor:

Dear sir:

We are having a great deal of difficulty in arranging the program for the Mountainair Chautauqua which begins July 19th, and continues two weeks, and for that reason no printed matter has been sent you. However, we will appreciate any mention you may make in a general way of the matter.

We think we have a splendid location, both geographically, and from the standpoint of climate and scenery: tributary to this point are many places of interest, and we are located about twelve miles from the Manzano Mountains, in which are many fine camping places, making it an ideal location to spend a vacation of a few days or a few months during the summer.

I think the big day, or the one at least in which New Mexico people depending upon dry farming are generally interested, will be the day Prof. H. W. Campbell is with us, Saturday, July

## Woodmen Contest

Estancia Camp, No. 13727, Modern Woodmen of America, on last Monday night initiated two more candidates, bringing the total membership to fifty-nine, larger than that of any other local lodge. It was decided to put on a contest for new members. James Walker and A. M. Steele were chosen captains, and the total membership divided into two sections, the "Reds" and the "Blues." After a campaign of sixty days, the section bringing in the lesser number of new applicants will banquet the victors and new members. There promises to be some sport before the contest is ended.

### Eastern Visitors

A special train passed through Estancia Wednesday morning bearing besides Robert and Morrell Law and W. S. Hopewell of the New Mexico Central, H. W. McMasters and F. H. Skelding of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. These gentlemen were shown over the main line of the Central, and were then driven to the Hagan Coal Fields and to Albuquerque.

### Succumbed to Operation.

The body of Frank Walrath, who died yesterday morning, following an operation, will in all probability be shipped to his old home in Emporia, Kan., some time tomorrow. Undertaker Strong is holding the body pending the arrival of Mr. Walrath's brother, who will arrive this evening and give shipping instructions. Mr. Walrath was taken suddenly ill last Wednesday and was hurriedly brought to this city and placed in the hospital for treatment. His condition was critical, however, and an operation was necessary. Mr. Walrath, for some time past has been in the employ of the L. W. Lewis Construction company in charge of the ballasting on the Santa Fe road, and is well known throughout this territory.—Citizen.

31st. Mrs. S. C. Nutter, of Albuquerque, President of New Mexico W.C.T.U. will maintain headquarters on the ground.

Mrs. A. H. Limerick, of Winfield, Kansas, an old and very successful Chautauqua worker will inaugurate the C. L. S. C. work; and other organizations will maintain headquarters on the ground.

Tents may be secured for \$3.50 to \$4.00 for the two weeks, and cots at \$1.00 each. Parties are requested if possible to bring their own bedding for camping purposes. Everything else may be secured here at reasonable rates. Those who desire to come in parties might secure one tent for cooking and eating purposes, and other tents for sleeping purposes, and by this arrangement they could reduce the expenses very materially, by doing a little light housekeeping. As many as ten may sleep comfortably in one of the larger tents, which cost \$4.00 for the two weeks.

We will certainly appreciate any favorable mention you may care to give us, and will be glad to have you attend the meeting. Thanking you in advance,

I remain  
Yours very truly,  
John W. Corbett.

## ALMOST AN INCH OF RAIN FELL LAST FRIDAY

Toward the West the Precipitation was considerably Heavier

On last Friday afternoon, Estancia and the surrounding country enjoyed a down pour of rain, which caused some of the "tenderfeet" who had been claiming that it could not rain in New Mexico, to change their minds. The storm gathered over the Manzanos, passing over the valley from the west. In Estancia the precipitation was ninety-three one-hundredths of an inch. About two miles west of town, along a strip a mile or more wide and several miles from north to south, the precipitation was much greater, probably almost double.

On Saturday night another storm passed northward along the Manzanos and Sandias, crossing in the north to the Padernals, where it rained itself out.

There are still parts of the valley where no rain has fallen, but the rains having commenced it is quite likely that there will be more to follow shortly. Last year, the rains began on July 13, or about three weeks later than this, and a good crop resulted. All parts of the valley which were visited by these rains are assured a good harvest.

### Drilling Resumed.

The well drill was started to work again on yesterday morning, after having been shut down on Saturday for want of funds. Sufficient funds have been pledged to keep the work going for a period of three months, should this be necessary, which it is hoped and believed will not be.

The drill is working in a hard, red sandstone and much interest is manifest, to have the drill pierce this. The thickness of the rock can only be guessed at, but it is thought that whenever it is pierced, something will happen—just what no one dares say.

### More Strays

A. N. Brown and D. F. Heal of Lucia, were over Monday of this week. Mr. Heal has lost a horse and a mule during the past week. Only a week since, Mr. Carlile had a similar experience. As soon as a reward was offered the strays were located. There appears to be foundation for the belief that someone is driving off stock and holding it for reward, as Mr. Heal says that of his two horses, the one strayed never leaves the other, unless forced to do so. If the thing continues, someone may carry off a load of buckshot, instead of driving off a horse or mule.

### Odd Fellow Installation.

On Friday, July 2, the local Odd Fellows and Rebekahs will hold their installation of officers at the local hall, to which all Odd Fellows in the Valley are invited. There'll be something doing which no Odd Fellow can afford to miss.